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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/745,464

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Takeo Katsuda

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EXAMINER

PENDERGRASS, KYLE M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 10/01/2004

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/745,464

Applicant(s)

KATSUDA, TAKEO

Examiner

Kyle M Pendergrass

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/23
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagashima (US 6,438,574) & Tanaka (US 6,519,048).**

Regarding claims 1-3, 8-9, & 11-12, Nagashima teaches a system connected connected by a network (*column 3, lines 56-57*) that scans a read image (*column 4, lines 44-45*), produces a password (*column 6, line 34-35*, passwords are stored on ID cards), transmits the image data to a designated printer (*column 4, lines 58-61*, 'controller 5' receives PDL data, & *column 7, line 64 - column 8, line 5*, ID card is recognized and the printer is selected), and performs printing on the basis of the image data (*column 4, lines 45-46*, printer prints data read by scanner, & *Fig 7*, printing designated). Nagashima also teaches an image forming device (*Fig 1*, 'controller 5' connected to 'digital copier 10' and 'ID card recognition unit 14') comprising a receiving unit which receives a password (*column 6, lines 34-35*, ID cards store a password, & *column 6, lines 43-58*, ID code information is added onto print data received by 'controller 5'); and a controller which controls said image forming unit based on whether the set

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password is received or not (*column 6, lines 43-58*, ID card is inserted into 'controller 5' which selects the print job relating to the print data, & *Fig 7, S11-S12*). However, Nagashima does not teach receiving designation of an E-mail addressee, and transmitting the password to the designated addressee through E-mail.

Tanaka teaches the designation of an addressee (*column 5, lines 33-35*), and transmitting the password to the designated addressee by an E-mail (*column 11, lines 36-39*).

Accordingly it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the image forming method of Nagashima with the teachings of Tanaka. The Tanaka teachings enable the output result of the Nagashima print to be promptly, easily, and visually confirmed. It also allows transfer of status data to the user, confirming a print result.

Regarding claim 4, the rejection of claim 3 is representative of claim 4. See Nagashima regarding the password which is requested to be entered as a condition for starting image formation based on the image data received by the image data receiving device (*column 8, lines 25-27, 30-31*).

Regarding claim 5, the rejection of claim 4 is representative of claim 5. See Tanaka regarding receiving unit which receives completion notification which is transmitted in reply to entering of the password and image formation (*column 5, lines 46-48, column 11, lines 45-51*).

Regarding claim 6, the rejection of claim 3 is representative of claim 6. See Nagashima regarding the password which is requested to be entered as a

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condition for starting image data transmission by said image data transmitter (*Fig 7, steps S11-S13*).

Regarding claim 7, the rejection of claim 3 is representative of claim 7.

See Nagashima regarding designation unit of an email address (*column 6, line 34-37*, email addresses are stored on ID cards and designated when the ID cards are used).

Regarding claim 10, Tanaka teaches an image data transmitter which transmits image data to an image forming device via a network (*column 4, lines 11-16*); and a setting unit which sets a password specifying the image data to be transmitted and mail transmitter which transmits the set password to an address of said E-mail receiving device by an E-mail (*column 11, lines 36-39*). The password requires a setting unit to be included in order for the password to be set and sent via E-mail. Tanaka further teaches an image forming device comprising a receiver which receives the image data transmitted by said image communicating device (*column 4, lines 11-16*, "print server"); a storage which stores the received image data (*column 4, lines 17-19*, "print job storing means"); and an image forming unit which forms an image on a printing sheet based on the image data stored in said storage (*column 4, lines 50-52*, "print data is generated by printer in Figure 7, which by industry standards is capable of printing an image on a printing sheet"). However, Tanaka does not teach an image forming device comprising a receiving unit which receives a password; and a controller which controls said image forming unit based on whether the set password is received or not.

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Nagashima teaches an image forming device (*Fig 1*, 'controller 5' connected to 'digital copier 10' and 'ID card recognition unit 14') comprising a receiving unit which receives a password (*column 6, lines 34-35*, ID cards store a password, & *column 6, lines 43-58*, ID code information is added onto print data received by 'controller 5'); and a controller which controls said image forming unit based on whether the set password is received or not (*column 6, lines 43-58*, ID card is inserted into 'controller 5' which selects the print job relating to the print data, & *Fig 7, S11-S12*).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to have used the password control of Nagashima in the image forming apparatus of Tanaka, because the Nagashima teachings allow the user to handle his or her own job in a simple fashion without confusing the job with that of another person. In addition, the user can prevent another individual from accessing his or her own job, because another individual cannot print the job or come to know the job information without permission (*Nagashima teachings, column 6, lines 58-65*).

### Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. This prior art includes: Kadowaki (US 6,313,921).

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**Contact Information**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kyle Pendergrass whose telephone number is (703) 306-3445. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiners supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (703) 308-7452. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned in (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application of proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9700.



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